



## Happy New Year

We hope you all had some fun together over the holidays. Now we are back, we are very excited to have started our new project: The Great Fire of London. The history projects always spark (no pun intended) excitement and curiosity, please see the projects section for more details.

Please remember that our staff are here to help you, as your children will learn best when we all work together. If ever you have a question or concern please respectfully raise concerns with your child's class teacher first, then, raise them with the Year Team Leader if not satisfied. Please use our DOJO system to communicate or to arrange a time for a face-to-face conversation, if it is not a question that can be quickly answered. There will be another parents' evening this term but we prefer not to wait for these if anything needs to be raised. We are looking forward to working with you all again this term.

### Parental Help!

If you would like to help and you have the time to offer, it would be greatly appreciated. We really would love to have some parent readers in to support those children who need some extra practise. If you have any spare time and you would like to come and join us, please DOJO or speak to your child's class teacher.

### Dates for your Diary...

Fire Crew visit Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February  
Market Place  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March  
Half Term Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February  
INSET Day Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February  
Parents' Evenings  
27<sup>th</sup> February and 29<sup>th</sup> February  
World Book Day Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March  
Titanic Celebration Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March – afternoon  
Author visit Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March  
SeaCity Trip Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March  
Easter Holiday Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March.  
Summer term starts Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

### Projects and learning

This term, we will be covering two projects, both of which are history based. This half term, we will be looking at the Great Fire of London and after the half term break we will be focusing on the Titanic.

We will learn about the events that lead up to both of these and how we know about them today. We will also explore what we have learned from them. We will have a visit from the fire crew and we are very excited to be going on a trip to the SeaCity Museum to further develop our knowledge about the Titanic.

Alongside our projects, we will be learning about search engines and how to keep safe when online. We will be further developing our knowledge of shape and multiplication in maths. In Art and DT, we will be painting fires and even making a moving fire engine using a winding mechanism. In science, we are focusing on materials and carrying out a fair test to investigate this. All of the children will be learning how to play London's Burning on a tuned instrument in our music lessons. Our English will be recounts and poetry but we will also have specific grammar, phonics and handwriting sessions.

### Spellings, Reading and helping at home!

Starting this term, we will be introducing spellings to the children. They will be given new spellings on Tuesdays and will be tested the following Monday. The words are chosen from the Year 1 and 2 Common Exception lists and they don't follow a phonics pattern (they can't be sounded out to spell them). The children will be given their score each week, which they can share with you. We will provide a handwriting book for the children to practise their spellings in at home.

The children will continue to have their new reading book and a weekly reading target sent via ClassDojo. The children need to be practising at least five times a week and if this is recorded in their reading records, they will get a dojo point for ever read recorded in their reading log books. Please support your child by asking them about what they have read, ensuring they have understood it.

The two areas in Maths which children need extra practise with is time and money. Time on an analogue clock needs constant discussion (especially as they are mostly used to seeing digital clocks). For your knowledge, they need to be able to tell the time on an analogue clock to the five-minute intervals. We always suggest money as they seem to handle coins less and less in the contactless age we live but they need to understand the coins and notes we have and the concept of change.

### PE and Library

**Tuesday** indoor PE and **Thursday** outdoor PE – Please name all kit.

**Friday** - Library – please ensure library books are in their bookbags in order to change them.

### Market Days...

Year 2 will all be creating items to sell at this market and we have set up a Market Day group who will be very busy creating 'grow your own' pots with seeds.

### There's always more...

As we have said before, attendance and punctuality are key to boosting your child's educational achievement. A quick reminder, the classroom doors will be open at 8:30am and the gates will be locked at 8:45am. Anyone arriving after this time will be marked late.